

A TB Model With Infection-Age-Dependent Infectivity

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1. The basic model and its variant equivalent forms

It has been considered by Carlos Castillo-Chavez and Zhilan Feng(see[1]) that the following preliminary model for the transmission of tuberculosis(TB):

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{d}{dt}S &= \Lambda - \beta c S \frac{I}{N} - \mu S \\
 \frac{d}{dt}L &= \beta c S \frac{I}{N} - (\mu + k + r_1)L + \beta' c T \frac{I}{N} \\
 \frac{d}{dt}I &= kL - (\mu + d)I - r_2 I \\
 \frac{d}{dt}T &= r_1 L + r_2 I - \beta' c T \frac{I}{N} - \mu T \\
 N &= S + L + I + T
 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Where the host population is divided into the following epidemiological classes or sub-groups: Susceptibles (S), Latent (L , infected but not infectious), Infectious (I) and (effectively) Treated (T) individuals. N denotes the total population. The parameter Λ is the recruitment rate, β and β' are respectively the average proportions of susceptible and treated individuals infected by one infectious individual per contact per unit of time, c is the per-capita contact rate, μ is the per-capita natural death rate, k is the rate at which an individual leaves the latent class by becoming infectious, d is per-capita disease induced death rate, and r_1 and r_2 are per-capita treatment rates.

It is worthwhile to pay attention that the parameters in model (1) shown above are all constant. Particularly, that k is equal to constant means that the rate at which an individual leaves the latent class by becoming infectious does not depend on the latent-age. This is not reasonable. In fact, the parameter k depends on the latent-age τ according to the real case (see [2]), i.e. $k = k(\tau)$ is the function of variable τ . So we should improve the model (1) and further consider the following basic model:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{d}{dt}S &= \Lambda - \beta c S \frac{I}{N} - \mu S \\
 \frac{d}{dt}L &= \beta c S \frac{I}{N} - (\mu + r_1)L - \int_0^\infty k(\tau)l(t, \tau)d\tau + \beta' c T \frac{I}{N} \\
 \frac{d}{dt}I &= \int_0^\infty k(\tau)l(t, \tau)d\tau - (\mu + d)I - r_2 I \\
 \frac{d}{dt}T &= r_1 L + r_2 I - \beta' c T \frac{I}{N} - \mu T \\
 L &= \int_0^\infty l(t, \tau)d\tau \\
 N &= S + L + I + T
 \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Here, the parameter $\Lambda, \beta, \beta', c, \mu, d, r_1, r_2$ are all positive constants with the same epidemiological meanings as above. The function $k(\tau)$ with positive value is the infectious rate,

$l(t, \tau)$ is the density of infected but not infectious individuals. Clearly, the model (2) is equivalent to the following model in mathematical viewpiont:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d}{dt}S(t) &= \Lambda - B_1(t) - \mu S(t) \\
(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau})l(t, \tau) &= -(\mu + k(\tau) + r_1)l(t, \tau) \\
\frac{d}{dt}I(t) &= W(t) - (\mu + d + r_2)I(t) \\
\frac{d}{dt}T(t) &= r_1L(t) + r_2I(t) - B_2(t) - \mu T(t) \\
l(t, 0) &= B_1(t) + B_2(t) \\
B_1(t) &= \beta c S(t) \frac{I(t)}{N(t)} \\
B_2(t) &= \beta' c T(t) \frac{I(t)}{N(t)} \\
W(t) &= \int_0^\infty k(\tau)l(t, \tau)d\tau \\
L(t) &= \int_0^\infty l(t, \tau)d\tau \\
N(t) &= S(t) + L(t) + I(t) + T(t)
\end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

By integrating along characteristic lines, we can reduce (3) to the following system of integral equations:

$$S = N^0 - B_1 * P_\mu + f_1 \tag{4a}$$

$$L = B_1 * P_{\mu+k(s)+r_1} + B_2 * P_{\mu+k(s)+r_1} + f_2 \tag{4b}$$

$$I = W * P_{\mu+d+r_2} + f_3 \tag{4c}$$

$$T = r_1L * P_\mu + r_2I * P_\mu - B_2 * P_\mu + f_4 \tag{4d}$$

$$W = B_1 * Q + B_2 * Q + f_5 \tag{4e}$$

$$B_1 = \beta c S \frac{I}{N} \tag{4f}$$

$$B_2 = \beta' c T \frac{I}{N} \tag{4g}$$

$$N = S + L + I + T \tag{4h}$$

Here ,we have use the notation

$$(B * P)(t) = \int_0^t B(t - \tau)P(\tau)d\tau$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
P_\alpha &= \exp\left(-\int_0^\tau \alpha \, ds\right) \\
Q &= k(\tau)P_{\mu+k(s)+r_1}(\tau) \\
N^0 &= \frac{\Lambda}{\mu} \\
f_1 &= \left(S(0) - \frac{\Lambda}{\mu}\right) e^{-\mu t} \\
f_2 &= \int_t^\infty l(0, \tau - t) \frac{P_{\mu+k(s)+r_1}(\tau)}{P_{\mu+k(s)+r_1}(t - \tau)} d\tau \\
f_3 &= I(0) e^{-(\mu+d+r_2)t} \\
f_4 &= T(0) e^{-\mu t} \\
f_5 &= \int_t^\infty l(0, \tau - t) k(\tau) \frac{P_{\mu+k(s)+r_1}(\tau)}{P_{\mu+k(s)+r_1}(\tau - t)} d\tau
\end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

In the following, we will respectively use the models (2),(3) and (4) for special purpose in different cases.

2.The existence of the stationary states and the basic reproductive number R_0

In this section ,we concentrate on the study of the existence of the stationary states, that is, equilibria or time-indepentent solutions,that are candidates for the asymptotic behavior of the disease dynamics.

Using the Laplace transform notation, we can note

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{P}(0) &= \int_0^\infty P_{\mu+k(s)+r_1}(\tau) d\tau = \int_0^\infty \exp\left(-\int_0^\tau (\mu + k(s) + r_1) ds\right) d\tau \\
\hat{Q}(0) &= \int_0^\infty Q(\tau) d\tau = \int_0^\infty k(\tau) \exp\left(-\int_0^\tau (\mu + k(s) + r_1) ds\right) d\tau
\end{aligned}$$

Then it can easily be checked that the equilibria of system (3) depend on the following equations:

$$\begin{aligned}
\Lambda - \beta c S \frac{I}{N} - \mu S &= 0 \\
L - \left(\beta c S \frac{I}{N} + \beta' c T \frac{I}{N}\right) \hat{P}(0) &= 0 \\
\left(\beta c S \frac{I}{N} + \beta' c T \frac{I}{N}\right) \hat{Q}(0) - (\mu + d + r_2) I &= 0 \\
r_1 L + r_2 I - \beta' c T \frac{I}{N} - \mu T &= 0 \\
S + L + I + T &= N
\end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

We take a assumptation similar to [1] that the infection probabilities per contact for the treated class is the same as that of the susceptible class,i.e., $\beta = \beta'$,and pay attention to

the idential equation

$$r_1 \hat{P}(0) + \mu \hat{P}(0) + \hat{Q}(0) = 1, \quad (7)$$

then the equations (6) turn to the following equivalent equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda - \mu N - dI &= 0 \\ L - \beta c(N - L - I) \frac{I}{N} \hat{P}(0) &= 0 \\ \beta c(N - L - I) \frac{I}{N} \hat{Q}(0) - (\mu + d + r_2)I &= 0 \\ \Lambda - \beta cS \frac{I}{N} - \mu S &= 0 \\ r_1 L + r_2 I - \beta cT \frac{I}{N} - \mu T &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

For solving these equations above,let

$$q = \beta c(N - L - I) \frac{I}{N} \quad (9)$$

then,clearly

$$I = \frac{\hat{Q}(0)}{\mu + d + r_2} q \quad (10)$$

$$L = \hat{P}(0) q \quad (11)$$

$$N = \frac{\Lambda}{\mu} - \frac{d}{\mu} \frac{\hat{Q}(0)}{\mu + d + r_2} q \quad (12)$$

$$S = \frac{\Lambda}{\mu + \beta c \frac{I}{N}} \quad (13)$$

$$T = \frac{r_1 L + r_2 I}{\mu + \beta c \frac{I}{N}} \quad (14)$$

substitute (10),(11),(12) into (9),the parameter q satisfy the equation

$$q \left(\frac{\Lambda}{\mu} - \frac{d}{\mu} \frac{\hat{Q}(0)}{\mu + d + r_2} q \right) = \frac{\beta c \hat{Q}(0)}{\mu + d + r_2} q \left(\frac{\Lambda}{\mu} - \frac{d}{\mu} \frac{\hat{Q}(0)}{\mu + d + r_2} q - \hat{P}(0) q - \frac{\hat{Q}(0)}{\mu + d + r_2} q \right) \quad (15)$$

By analysing (15),we get the basic reproductive number

$$R_0 = \frac{\beta c \hat{Q}(0)}{\mu + d + r_2} \quad (16)$$

and the following threshold result for existence of an endemic equilibrium.

THEOREM 1. If $R_0 \leq 1$, there exists only the disease-free equilibrium $E^0(S^0, L^0, I^0, T^0)$, no other equilibria. If $R_0 > 1$, there is a unique endemic equilibrium $E^*(S^*, L^*, I^*, T^*)$ except the disease-free equilibrium E^0 . Here

$$L^0 = I^0 = T^0 = 0, S^0 = N^0 = \frac{\Lambda}{\mu} \quad (17)$$

$$L^* = \hat{P}(0)q \quad (18)$$

$$I^* = \frac{\hat{Q}(0)}{\mu + d + r_2}q \quad (19)$$

$$T^* = \frac{r_1 L^* + r_2 I^*}{\mu + \beta c \frac{I^*}{N^*}} \quad (20)$$

$$S^* = \frac{\Lambda}{\mu + \beta c \frac{I^*}{N^*}} \quad (21)$$

and

$$N^* = \frac{R_0}{R_0 - 1}(L^* + I^*) \quad (22)$$

$$q = \frac{(R_0 - 1)\Lambda(\mu + d + r_2)}{d(R_0 - 1)\hat{Q}(0) + \mu R_0 \hat{P}(0)(\mu + d + r_2) + \mu R_0 \hat{Q}(0)} \quad (23)$$

Proof.

Solving (15) for q , cause two cases.

Case A. $q = 0$ as a solution of the equation (15), one finds $E^0(S^0, L^0, I^0, T^0)$ satisfied (17) from (10) – (14).

Case B. $q \neq 0$, then the equation (15) for q is equivalent to the following equation

$$(R_0 - 1)\left(\frac{\Lambda}{\mu} - \frac{d}{\mu} \frac{\hat{Q}(0)}{\mu + d + r_2}q\right) - R_0 \hat{P}(0)q - \frac{R_0 \hat{Q}(0)}{\mu + d + r_2}q = 0 \quad (24)$$

If $R_0 = 1$, no nonzero q satisfy (24). Thus there are no endemic equilibria from (10) – (14).

If $R_0 < 1$, no q satisfy (24) such that I, L, N expressed by (10), (11), (12) all are nonnegative and at least one of them is positive. So, there are no endemic equilibria.

If $R_0 > 1$, we can solve (24), get positive solution q expressed by (23) and find further (18) – (22) from (10) – (14). Particularly, one can check by (12) that

$$\begin{aligned} N^* &= \frac{\Lambda}{\mu} - \frac{d}{\mu} \frac{\hat{Q}(0)}{\mu + d + r_2} \frac{(R_0 - 1)\Lambda(\mu + d + r_2)}{d(R_0 - 1)\hat{Q}(0) + \mu R_0 \hat{P}(0)(\mu + d + r_2) + \mu R_0 \hat{Q}(0)} \\ &= \frac{\Lambda R_0 [(\mu + d + r_2)\hat{P}(0) + \hat{Q}(0)]}{d(R_0 - 1)\hat{Q}(0) + \mu R_0 \hat{P}(0)(\mu + d + r_2) + \mu R_0 \hat{Q}(0)} \\ &= \frac{R_0}{R_0 - 1}(L^* + I^*), \end{aligned}$$

(22) holds and S^*, L^*, I^*, T^*, N^* all are positive. Thus the proof end.

3. Stability of the disease-free equilibrium E^0 and endemic equilibrium E^*

In this section, Fator's lemma and the following notation will be useful. For a bounded real-valued function f defined on $[0, \infty)$, we set

$$\begin{aligned} f_\infty &= \liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} f(t), \\ f^\infty &= \limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} f(t), \\ f(\infty) &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} f(t). \end{aligned}$$

The following theorem connects the basic reproductive number R_0 to the extinction of the disease.

THEOREM 2. Let $R_0 < 1$. Then the disease-free equilibrium E^0 is globally attractive, i.e., E^0 is globally asymptotically stable.

Proof.

We use the model formulation (4) and (5). First, we easily observe that

$$f_j(\infty) = 0, \quad j = 1, \dots, 5. \quad (25)$$

Then we can apply Fatou's lemma and Lebesgue's theorem of dominated convergence to (4) to get useful estimations in inequalities and further complete our proof.

Let

$$B = B_1 + B_2, \quad (26)$$

from (4e), (4f), (4g), (4h) and the assumed condition $\beta' = \beta$, we get equation and inequality below

$$W = B * Q + f_5, \quad (27)$$

$$B = \beta c I \frac{S + T}{N} \leq \beta c I. \quad (28)$$

Further, by (25), (27), (28) and (4c), we get

$$W^\infty \leq B^\infty \hat{Q}(0) \quad (29)$$

$$B^\infty \leq \beta c I^\infty \quad (30)$$

$$I^\infty \leq W^\infty \int_0^\infty P_{\mu+d+r_2}(\tau) d\tau = \frac{1}{\mu + d + r_2} W^\infty \quad (31)$$

Introducing (30), (31) into (29), we get

$$W^\infty \leq R_0 W^\infty, \quad (32)$$

i.e.,

$$(1 - R^0)W^\infty \leq 0, \quad (33)$$

or,

$$W^\infty \leq 0. \quad (34)$$

Pay attention to $0 \leq W$ and (33), we find

$$W^\infty = W(\infty) = 0. \quad (35)$$

So, by (35),(31),(30) and $0 \leq I, 0 \leq B$, we find

$$I^\infty = I(\infty) = 0, \quad (36)$$

$$B^\infty = B(\infty) = 0. \quad (37)$$

Similarly, we can find

$$B_1(\infty) = B_2(\infty) = 0, \quad (38)$$

and

$$L(\infty) = T(\infty) = 0, \quad (39)$$

$$S(\infty) = N(\infty) = N^0 = \frac{\Lambda}{\mu}. \quad (40)$$

Synthesize (36),(39),(40),we find

$$(S, L, I, T) \rightarrow \left(\frac{\Lambda}{\mu}, 0, 0, 0\right) = E^0, \quad t \rightarrow \infty. \quad (41)$$

The proof end.

The following theorem show that the disease may be persistent.

THEOREM 3. The endemic equilibrium E^* is locally asymptotically stable if

$$\varepsilon = R_0 - 1 \quad (42)$$

is sufficiently close to 0 or $k(\tau) \equiv k$ (constant).

Proof.

From (2),we get

$$\frac{d}{dt}N = \Lambda - \mu N - dI. \quad (43)$$

So,in order to study the stability of E^* ,we only need considering following equivalent

subsystem

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d}{dt}N &= \Lambda - \mu N - dI \\
\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau}\right)l(t, \tau) &= -(\mu + k(\tau) + r_1)l(t, \tau) \\
\frac{d}{dt}I &= W(t) - (\mu + d + r_2)I \\
l(t, 0) &= \beta c(N - I - L)\frac{I}{N} \\
W(t) &= \int_0^\infty k(\tau)l(t, \tau)d\tau \\
L(t) &= \int_0^\infty l(t, \tau)d\tau.
\end{aligned} \tag{44}$$

Set

$$\begin{aligned}
N &= N^* + n, \\
l &= l^* + u, \quad i.e., \quad L = L^* + v, \\
I &= I^* + i,
\end{aligned}$$

we linearize (44) around the endemic equilibrium E^* as follows

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d}{dt}n &= -\mu n - di \\
\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau}\right)u(t, \tau) &= -(\mu + k(\tau) + r_1)u(t, \tau) \\
\frac{d}{dt}i &= \omega - hi \\
u(t, 0) &= \frac{\beta c I^*}{N^*}(n - i - v) + \frac{\beta c}{N^*}(N^* - I^* - L^*)i \\
&\quad - \frac{\beta c}{N^*} \frac{I^*}{N^*}(N^* - I^* - L^*)n \\
\omega &= \int_0^\infty k(\tau)u(t, \tau)d\tau \\
v &= \int_0^\infty u(t, \tau)d\tau
\end{aligned} \tag{45}$$

here,

$$h = \mu + d + r_2.$$

To study the stability of this linear system (45) we look of solutions to (45) of the exponential form

$$\begin{aligned}
n(t) &= e^{zt}\tilde{n}, \\
u(t, \tau) &= e^{zt}\tilde{u}(\tau), \\
i(t) &= e^{zt}\tilde{i}
\end{aligned} \tag{46}$$

with a complex number z and $\tilde{n} \neq 0, \tilde{u}(\tau) \neq 0, \tilde{i} \neq 0$.

The endemic equilibrium will be locally asymptotically stable, provided that, for all solutions of this form (46), the real part of z is strictly negative. It will be unstable if there is at least one such solution with the real part of z being strictly positive.

Substituting (46) into (45) yeilds

$$z\tilde{n} = -\mu\tilde{n} - d\tilde{i} \quad (47a)$$

$$z\tilde{u}(\tau) + \frac{d}{d\tau}\tilde{u}(\tau) = -(\mu + k(\tau) + r_1)\tilde{u}(\tau) \quad (47b)$$

$$z\tilde{i} = \tilde{\omega} - h\tilde{i} \quad (47c)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{u}(0) = \beta c(\tilde{n} - \tilde{v} - \tilde{i}) \frac{I^*}{N^*} - \frac{\tilde{n}}{N^*} \beta c(N^* - L^* - I^*) \frac{I^*}{N^*} \\ + \frac{\tilde{i}}{N^*} \beta c(N^* - L^* - I^*) \end{aligned} \quad (47d)$$

$$\tilde{v} = \int_0^\infty \tilde{u}(\tau) d\tau \quad (47e)$$

$$\tilde{\omega} = \int_0^\infty nfty_0 k(\tau) \tilde{u}(\tau) d\tau \quad (47f)$$

Using the Laplace transform notation again, we note

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{P}(z) &= \int_0^\infty e^{-z\tau} P_{\mu+k(s)r_1}(\tau) d\tau \\ &= \int_0^\infty \exp\left(-\int_0^\tau (\mu + k(s) + r_1 + z) ds\right) d\tau, \end{aligned} \quad (48)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{Q}(z) &= \int_0^\infty e^{-z\tau} Q(\tau) d\tau \\ &= \int_0^\infty k(\tau) \exp\left(-\int_0^\tau (\mu + k(s) + r_1 + z) ds\right) d\tau. \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

Solve (47b) for \tilde{u} and fit the result into (47e) and (47f) as follows

$$\tilde{v} = \tilde{u}(0) \tilde{P}(z), \quad (50)$$

$$\tilde{\omega} = \tilde{u}(0) \tilde{Q}(z). \quad (51)$$

By (47c) and (51), we find

$$\tilde{i} = \frac{1}{h+z} \tilde{u}(0) \tilde{Q}(z), \quad (52)$$

By (47a) and (52), we find

$$\tilde{n} = \frac{-d}{\mu+z} \frac{1}{h+z} \tilde{u}(0) \tilde{Q}(z). \quad (53)$$

Note that $\tilde{u}(0)$ must be different from zero because otherwise both $\tilde{n} = 0, \tilde{i} = 0$ at least. Fitting (50), (52), (53) into (47d) and dividing by $\tilde{u}(0) \neq 0$ yields the characteristic equation

$$\begin{aligned} 1 = & \beta c \left(\frac{-d}{\mu + z} \frac{1}{h + z} \hat{Q}(z) - \hat{P}(z) - \frac{1}{h + z} \hat{Q}(z) \right) \frac{I^*}{N^*} \\ & + \frac{1}{N^*} \frac{d}{\mu + z} \frac{1}{h + z} \hat{Q}(z) \beta c (N^* - L^* - I^*) \frac{I^*}{N^*} \\ & + \frac{1}{N^*} \frac{1}{h + z} \hat{Q}(z) \beta c (N^* - L^* - I^*) \end{aligned} \quad (54)$$

Substituting (18) – (23) and (42) into (54), we get

$$\begin{aligned} 1 = & \frac{\varepsilon h}{h\hat{P}(0) + \hat{Q}(0)} \left(\frac{-d}{\mu + z} \frac{1}{h + z} \hat{Q}(z) - \frac{1}{h + z} \hat{Q}(z) - \hat{P}(z) \right) \\ & + \frac{\varepsilon h \hat{Q}(0)}{(1 + \varepsilon)(h\hat{P}(0) + \hat{Q}(0))} \frac{d}{\mu + z} \frac{1}{h + z} \frac{\hat{Q}(z)}{\hat{Q}(0)} + \frac{h}{h + z} \frac{\hat{Q}(z)}{\hat{Q}(0)} \end{aligned} \quad (55)$$

To simplify the characteristic equation further, we define the probability densities

$$p(\tau) = \frac{P_{\nu+k(s)+r_1}(\tau)}{\hat{P}(0)}, \quad (56)$$

$$q(\tau) = \frac{Q(\tau)}{\hat{Q}(0)}, \quad (57)$$

and introduce the parameters

$$\delta_1 = \frac{h\hat{P}(0)}{h\hat{P}(0) + \hat{Q}(0)}, \quad (58)$$

$$\delta_2 = \frac{\hat{Q}(0)}{h\hat{P}(0) + \hat{Q}(0)}, \quad (59)$$

Then it is clear that

$$\hat{p}(z) = \int_0^\infty e^{-z\tau} p(\tau) d\tau = \frac{\hat{P}(z)}{\hat{P}(0)}, \quad (60)$$

$$\hat{q}(z) = \int_0^\infty e^{-z\tau} q(\tau) d\tau = \frac{\hat{Q}(z)}{\hat{Q}(0)}, \quad (61)$$

$$\int_0^\infty p(\tau) d\tau = \int_0^\infty q(\tau) d\tau = 1, \quad (62)$$

$$0 < \delta_1 < 1, \quad 0 < \delta_2 < 1, \quad \delta_1 + \delta_2 = 1. \quad (63)$$

We also express the complex numbers in (55) as forms

$$\frac{h}{h + z} = a e^{-i \theta_h}, \quad (64)$$

$$\frac{1}{\mu + z} = b e^{-i \theta_\mu}, \quad (65)$$

here,

$$a = \frac{h}{\sqrt{(h+x)^2 + y^2}}, \quad (66)$$

$$b = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(\mu+x)^2 + y^2}}, \quad (67)$$

$$\cos\theta_h = \frac{h+x}{\sqrt{(h+x)^2 + y^2}}, \quad (68)$$

$$\sin\theta_h = \frac{y}{\sqrt{(h+x)^2 + y^2}}, \quad (69)$$

$$\cos\theta_\mu = \frac{\mu+x}{\sqrt{(\mu+x)^2 + y^2}}, \quad (70)$$

$$\sin\theta_\mu = \frac{y}{\sqrt{(\mu+x)^2 + y^2}}, \quad (71)$$

and

$$z \equiv x + i y. \quad (72)$$

Clearly, the real numbers a, b satisfy

$$0 < a \leq 1, \quad 0 < b \leq \frac{1}{\mu}, \quad \forall z = (x, y) \in R_+^2 = \{(x, y) \mid x \geq 0, y \geq 0\}. \quad (73)$$

With these definitions and expressions above, (55) takes the form

$$1 = (1 - \varepsilon \delta_2 - \frac{\varepsilon^2}{1 + \varepsilon} \delta_2 b d e^{-i \theta_\mu}) a e^{-i \theta_h} \hat{q}(z) - \varepsilon \delta_1 \hat{p}(z). \quad (74)$$

To study the position of the roots $z = x + i y$ of (74), we separate (74) into real and imaginary parts as follows

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - a \int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} \cos(\theta_h + y\tau) q(\tau) d\tau &= -\varepsilon \delta_2 a \int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} \cos(\theta_h + y\tau) q(\tau) d\tau \\ &\quad - \frac{\varepsilon^2}{1 + \varepsilon} \delta_2 b d a \int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} \cos(\theta_\mu + \theta_h + y\tau) q(\tau) d\tau \\ &\quad - \varepsilon \delta_1 \int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} \cos(y\tau) p(\tau) d\tau, \end{aligned} \quad (75)$$

$$\begin{aligned} a \int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} \sin(\theta_h + y\tau) q(\tau) d\tau &= \varepsilon \delta_2 a \int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} \sin(\theta_h + y\tau) q(\tau) d\tau \\ &\quad + \frac{\varepsilon^2}{1 + \varepsilon} \delta_2 b d a \int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} \sin(\theta_\mu + \theta_h + y\tau) q(\tau) d\tau \\ &\quad + \varepsilon \delta_1 \int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} \sin(y\tau) p(\tau) d\tau. \end{aligned} \quad (76)$$

By the Riemann and Lebesgue Lemma, we find the facts similar to [3] below.

P1. If $x \geq 0, |y| + x \rightarrow \infty$, then

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} \cos(y\tau) p(\tau) d\tau &\rightarrow 0, \\
\int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} \sin(y\tau) p(\tau) d\tau &\rightarrow 0, \\
\int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} \cos(y\tau) q(\tau) d\tau &\rightarrow 0, \\
\int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} \sin(y\tau) q(\tau) d\tau &\rightarrow 0, \\
\int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} \cos(\theta_h + y\tau) q(\tau) d\tau &\rightarrow 0, \\
\int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} \sin(\theta_h + y\tau) q(\tau) d\tau &\rightarrow 0, \\
\int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} \cos(\theta_\mu + \theta_h + y\tau) q(\tau) d\tau &\rightarrow 0, \\
\int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} \sin(\theta_\mu + \theta_h + y\tau) q(\tau) d\tau &\rightarrow 0,
\end{aligned} \tag{77}$$

because $p(\tau), q(\tau)$ are of bounded variation.

P2. $\forall x \geq 0, y > 0$,

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} \sin(y\tau) p(\tau) d\tau > 0, \tag{78}$$

because $p(\tau)$ is nonincreasing.

As we show later, the follow results can be checked step by sep.

Result A. $(x, y) = (0, 0)$ is not the root of (75), (76).

Substituting $x = 0, y = 0$ into (75), it takes the form

$$1 - \int_0^\infty q(\tau) d\tau = -\varepsilon \delta_2 \int_0^\infty q(\tau) a \tau - \frac{\varepsilon^2}{1 + \varepsilon} \delta_2 \frac{d}{\mu} \int_0^\infty q(\tau) d\tau - \varepsilon \delta_1 \int_0^\infty p(\tau) d\tau, \tag{79}$$

i.e.,

$$0 = -(\varepsilon + \frac{\varepsilon^2}{1 + \varepsilon} \delta_2 \frac{d}{\mu}), \tag{80}$$

a contradiction appears in (80). So Result A is true.

Result B. $(x, 0)$ with $x > 0$ is not the root of (75), (76).

Substituting $y = 0$ into (75), it takes the form

$$\begin{aligned}
1 - a \int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} q(\tau) d\tau &= -\varepsilon \delta_2 a \int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} q(\tau) d\tau \\
&\quad - \frac{\varepsilon^2}{1 + \varepsilon} \delta_2 b d a \int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} q(\tau) d\tau \\
&\quad - \varepsilon \delta_2 \int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} p(\tau) d\tau.
\end{aligned} \tag{81}$$

In this case,

$$\begin{aligned}
0 < a &= \frac{h}{h+x} < 1, \\
0 < b &= \frac{1}{\mu+x} < \frac{1}{\mu}, \\
0 < \int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} q(\tau) d\tau &< 1, \\
0 < \int_0^\infty e^{-x\tau} p(\tau) d\tau &< 1.
\end{aligned} \tag{82}$$

So the left-hand side of (81) is strictly positive, whereas the right-hand side of (81) is negative. This contradiction in (81) shows that Result B is true.

Result C. There are no roots (x, y) of (75), (76) with $x \geq 0$ if ε is sufficiently close to 0.

Clearly, we only need to show roots (x, y) with $x \geq 0, y > 0$.

If it does not hold, we have sequences ε_j, x_j, y_j satisfying (75), (76) with

$$\varepsilon_j > 0, \quad x_j \geq 0, \quad y_j > 0, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots,$$

and

$$\varepsilon_j \rightarrow 0, \quad j \rightarrow \infty.$$

If $\sup\{y_j\} = \infty$, then \exists subsequence $y_{j'}$ of the sequence y_j with $y_{j'} \rightarrow \infty, j' \rightarrow \infty$. Substituting $x_{j'}, y_{j'}, \varepsilon_{j'}$ into (75) and let $j' \rightarrow \infty$, it takes the form $1 = 0$, a contradiction. So the sequence y_j is bounded, i.e.,

$$\sup\{y_j\} < \infty. \tag{83}$$

Similarly, we find

$$\sup\{x_j\} < \infty. \tag{84}$$

By (83), (84), \exists subsequence $(x_{j''}, y_{j''})$ of the sequence (x_j, y_j) with

$$x_{j''} \rightarrow x_0, y_{j''} \rightarrow y_0, \varepsilon_{j''} \rightarrow 0, j'' \rightarrow \infty$$

and $x_0 \geq 0, y_0 \geq 0$.

Case A. $x_0^2 + y_0^2 \neq 0$. Substituting $x_{j''}, y_{j''}, \varepsilon_{j''}$ into (75) and let $j'' \rightarrow \infty$, it takes the forms

$$1 - a(x_0, y_0) \int_0^\infty e^{-x_0\tau} \cos(\theta_h(x_0, y_0) + y_0\tau) q(\tau) d\tau = 0,$$

i.e.,

$$1 = a(x_0, y_0) \int_0^\infty e^{-x_0\tau} \cos(\theta_h(x_0, y_0) + y_0\tau) q(\tau) d\tau. \quad (85)$$

Paying attention to the follow inequality

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_0^\infty e^{-x_0\tau} \cos(\theta_h(x_0, y_0) + y_0\tau) q(\tau) d\tau \right| \\ & \leq \int_0^\infty e^{-x_0\tau} q(\tau) d\tau \leq \int_0^\infty q(\tau) d\tau = 1, \\ & a(x_0, y_0) = \frac{h}{\sqrt{(h + x_0^2)^2 + y_0^2}} < 1, \end{aligned}$$

we find a contradiction in (85) because of that the right-hand side of (85) is strictly less than 1.

Case B. $x_0^2 + y_0^2 = 0$, i.e., $x_0 = 0, y_0 = 0$. Substituting $x_{j''}, y_{j''}, \varepsilon_{j''}$ into (76) and dividing by $y_{j''} > 0$, let $j'' \rightarrow \infty$, we find

$$\frac{1}{h} + \int_0^\infty \tau q(\tau) d\tau = 0, \quad (86)$$

a contradiction because of that the left-hand side of (86) is strictly positive.

So Result C is true. Further the proof end except the case $k(\tau) \equiv k(\text{constant})$.

In fact, if $k(\tau) \equiv k(\text{constant})$, the model (2) takes the form (1), the endemic equilibrium E^* is locally asymptotically stable (see [1]).

References

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